

FEB-09-04 03:32PM FROM-Merchant & Gould 3

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T-988 P.002/010 F-054

S/N 09/884,795

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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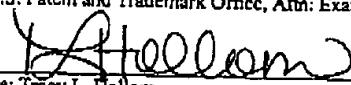
Applicant: Scherer et al. Examiner: J. Lee
Serial No.: 09/884,795 Group Art Unit: 3673
Filed: June 19, 2001 Docket No.: 3616.177US12
Title: BLOCK SPLITTING ASSEMBLY AND METHOD

FEB 09 2004

OFFICIAL

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.6(d):

I hereby certify that this paper is being transmitted by facsimile to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Attn: Examiner J. Lee at fax no. 703.872.9306 on February 9, 2004.

By: 
Name: Tracy L. Hollom

PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

Mail Stop AF
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a), it is respectfully requested that a one-month extension of time be granted in which to respond to the outstanding Office Action mailed October 8, 2003, said period of response being extended from January 8, 2004 to February 8, 2004.

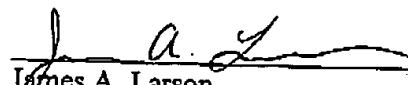
Please charge Deposit Acct. No. 13-2725 the amount of \$110.00 to cover the required extension fee for a large entity.



Respectfully submitted,

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February 9, 2004
Date


James A. Larson
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JAL:tlh